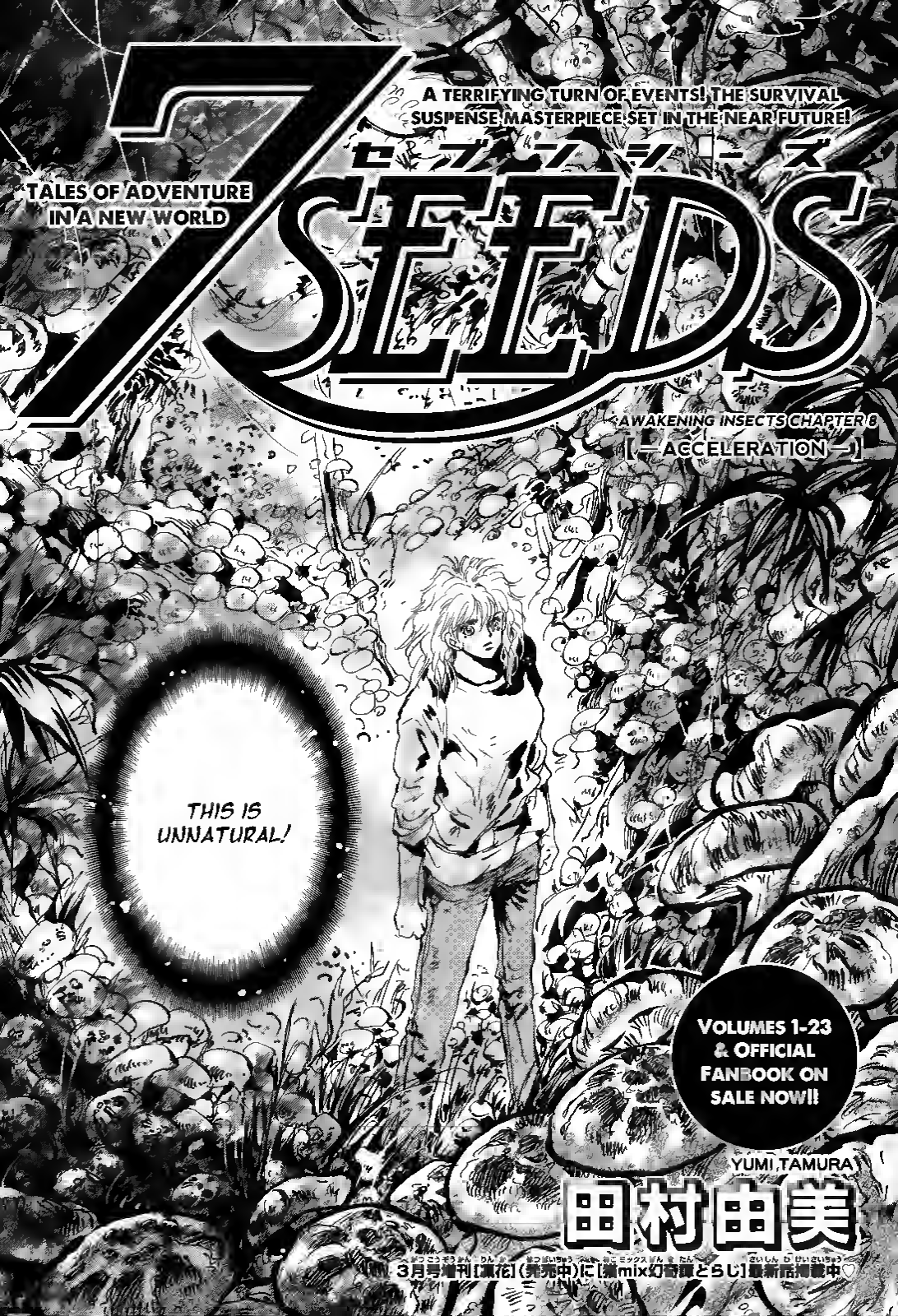
7 SEEDS

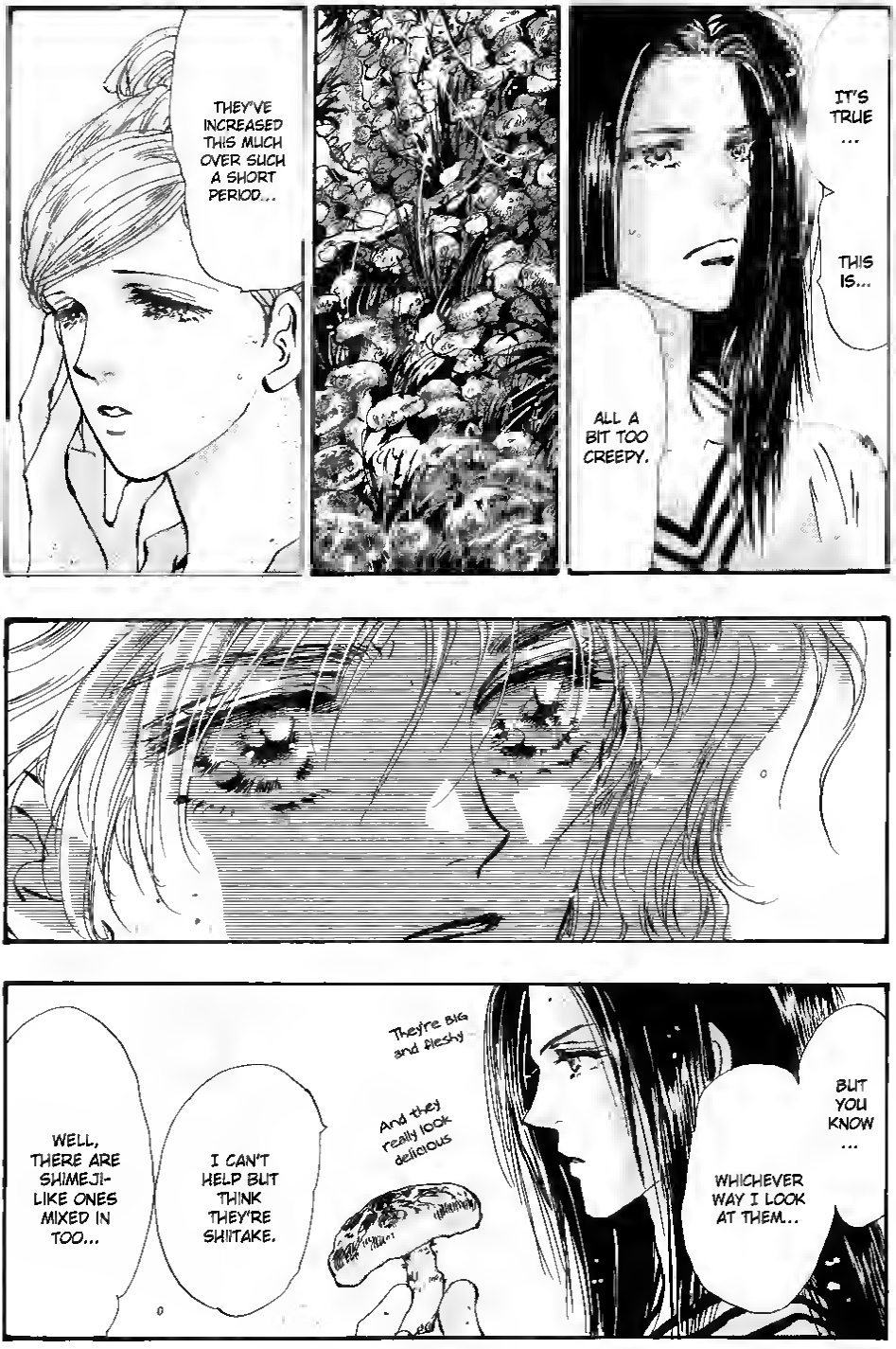
Chapter 117

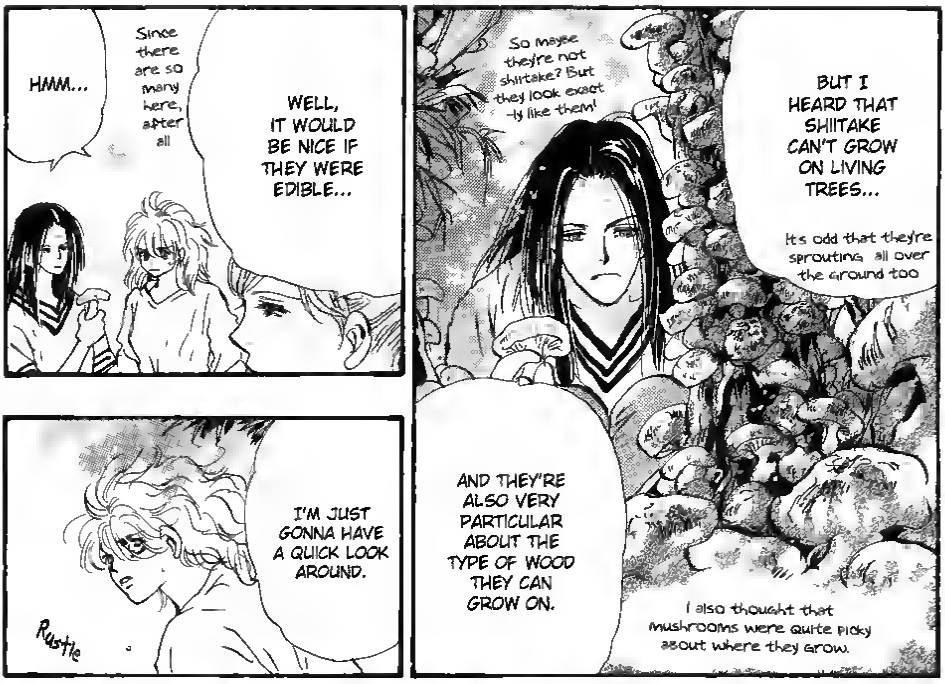
by Tamura Yumi

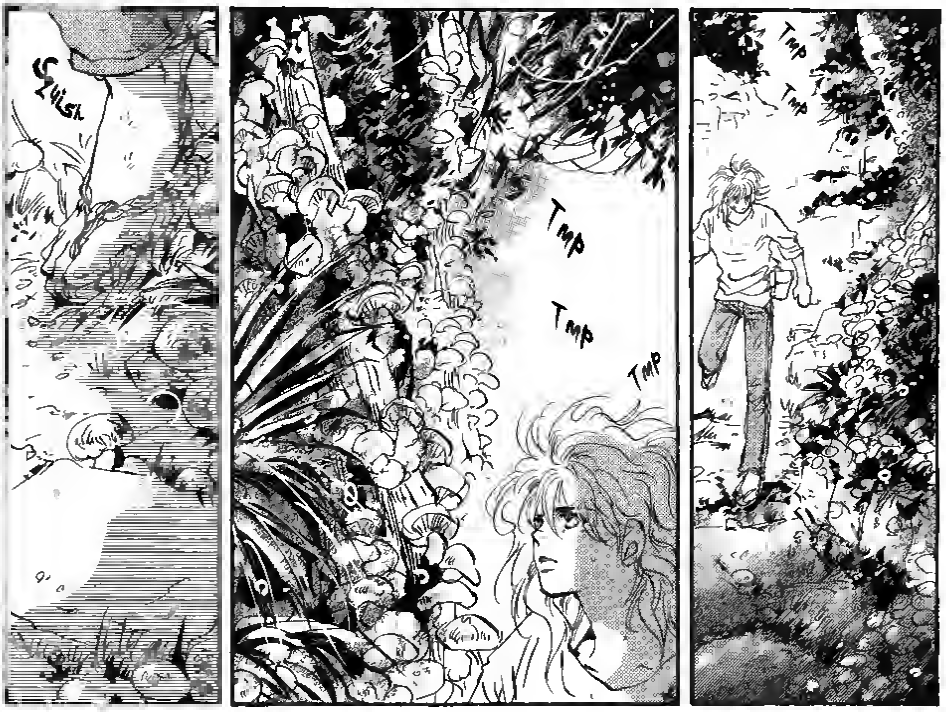
Scanned by K
Translated by Pandaranda
Cleaned by Arnuba
Typeset by Azau & Draganatar
Praafread by naked_kids
QCed by Pandaranda

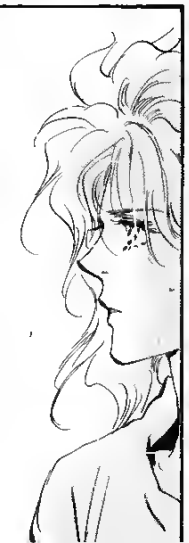
Brought to you by
Tsukihana Scans
tsukihana-scans.dreamwidth.org


A TERRIFYING TURN OF EVENTS! THE SURVIVAL SUSPENSE MASTERPIECE SET IN THE NEAR FUTURE!
TALES OF ADVENTURE IN A NEW WORLD
セブンシーズ
7SEEDS
AWAKENING INSECTS CHAPTER 8
【— ACCELERATION —】
THIS IS UNNATURAL!
VOLUMES 1-23 & OFFICIAL FANBOOK ON SALE NOW!!
YUMI TAMURA
田村由美
3月号増刊[凛花](発売中)に[flowers mix幻奇譚とらじ]最新話掲載中♡

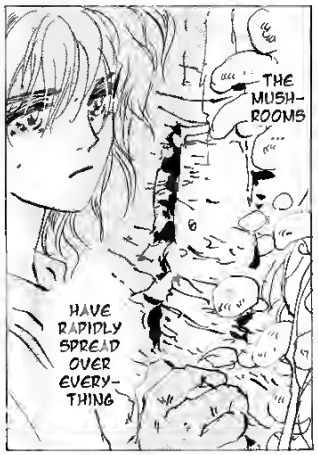

THEY'VE INCREASED THIS MUCH OVER SUCH A SHORT PERIOD...
IT'S TRUE ...
THIS IS...
ALL A BIT TOO CREEPY.
They're big and fleshy
And they really look delicious
BUT YOU KNOW ...
WHICHEVER WAY I LOOK AT THEM...
I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK THEY'RE SHIITAKE.
WELL, THERE ARE SHIMEJI-LIKE ONES MIXED IN TOO...

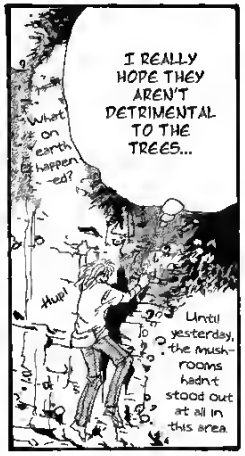

HMM...
Since there are so many here, after all
WELL, IT WOULD BE NICE IF THEY WERE EDIBLE...
So maybe they're not shiitake? But they look exact -ly like them!
BUT I HEARD THAT SHIITAKE CAN'T GROW ON LIVING TREES...
It's odd that they're sprouting all over the ground too
I'M JUST GONNA HAVE A QUICK LOOK AROUND.
Rustle
AND THEY'RE ALSO VERY PARTICULAR ABOUT THE TYPE OF WOOD THEY CAN GROW ON.
I also thought that mushrooms were quite picky about where they grow.

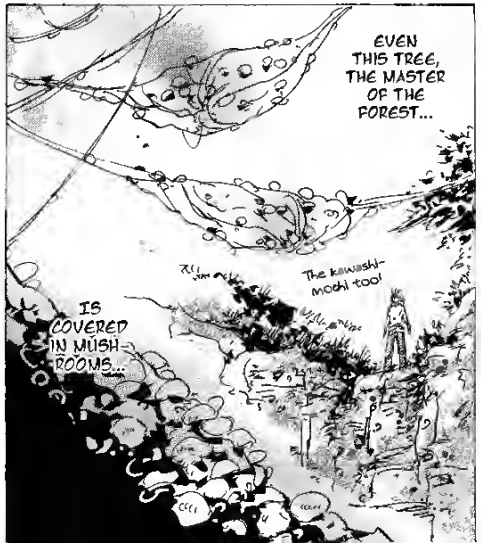

Squish
Tmp
Tmp
Tmp
Tmp
Tmp

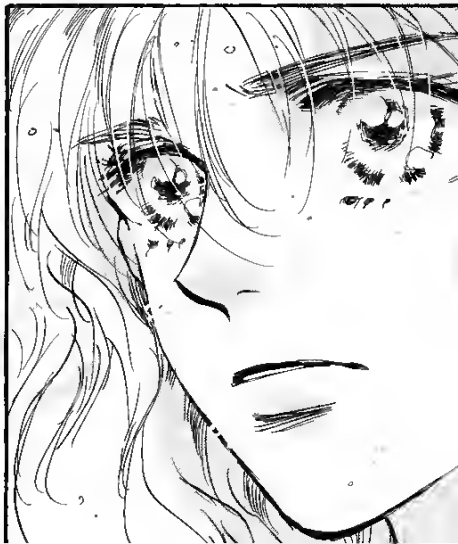


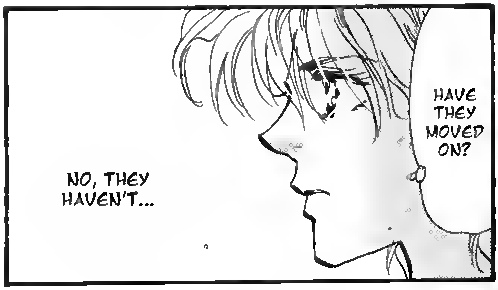
Squelch


THE MUSH-ROOMS
HAVE RAPIDLY SPREAD OVER EVERY-THING

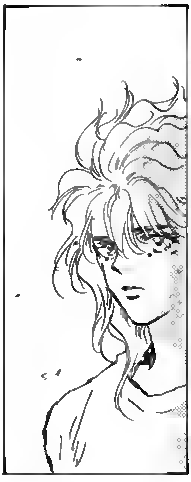

I REALLY HOPE THEY AREN'T DETRIMENTAL TO THE TREES...
What on earth happened?
Hup!
Until yesterday, the mush-rooms hadn't stood out at all in this area


EVEN THIS TREE, THE MASTER OF THE FOREST...
The kawashi-mochi too!
IS COVERED IN MUSH-ROOMS...

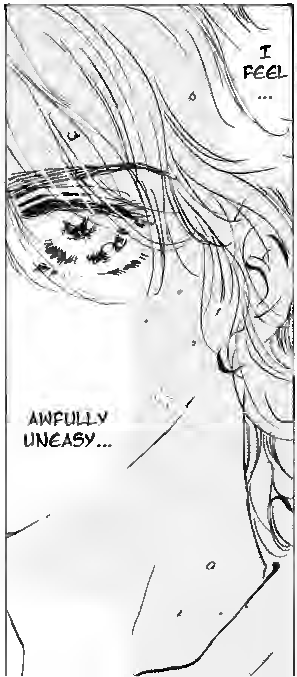


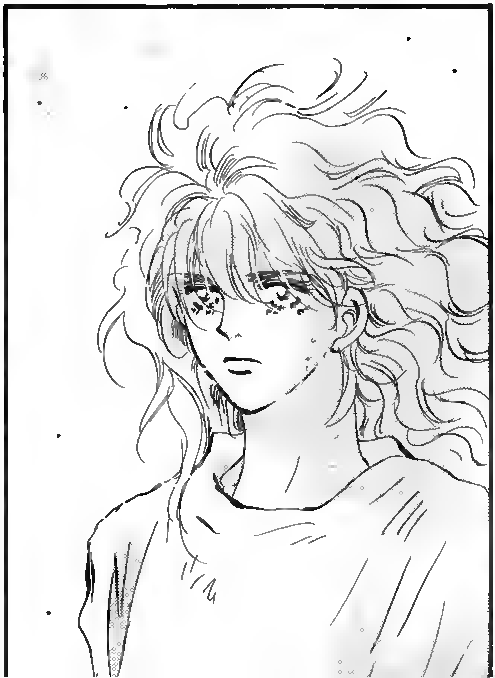

HAVE THEY MOVED ON?
NO, THEY HAVEN'T...

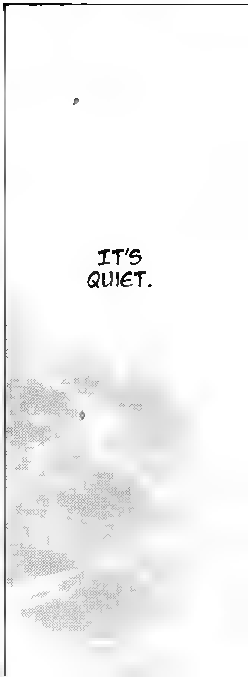
ALL THE ANIMALS THAT USED TO BE ALONG THE WATER-SIDE...
ARE GONE...

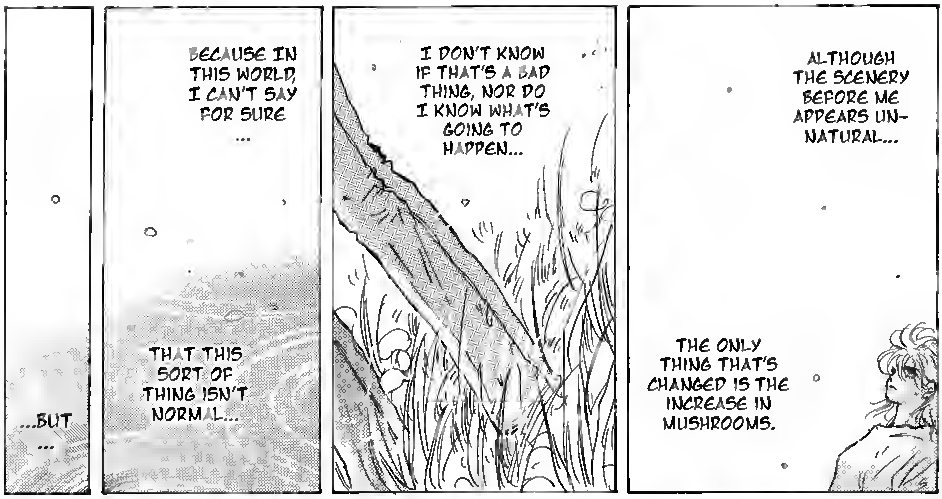


THEY'RE HIDING
WHY..?

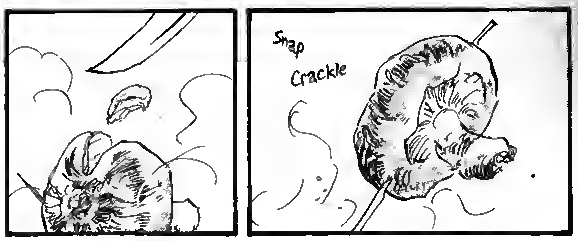

I FEEL ...
AWFULLY UNEASY...

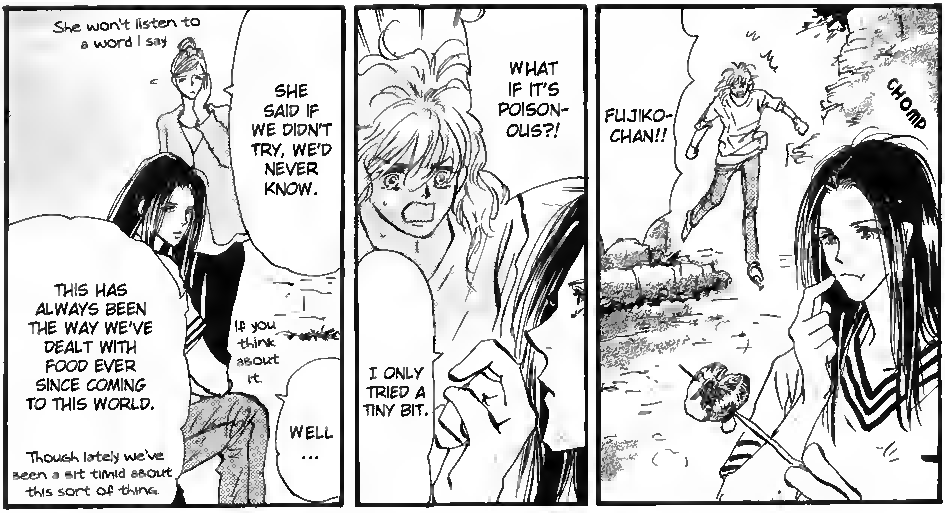


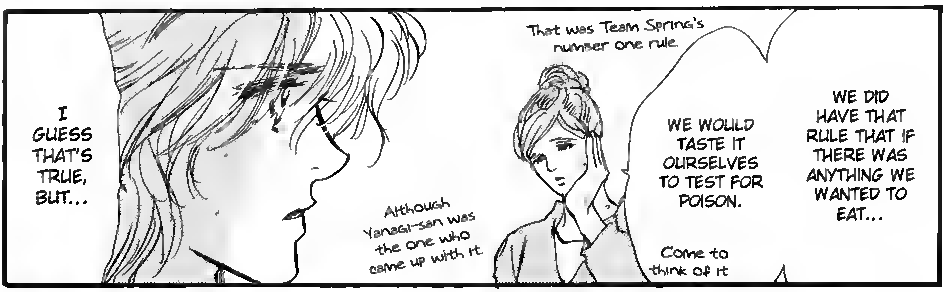

IT'S QUIET.


...BUT ...
BECAUSE IN THIS WORLD, I CAN'T SAY FOR SURE ...
THAT THIS SORT OF THING ISN'T NORMAL...
I DON'T KNOW IF THAT'S A BAD THING, NOR DO I KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN...
ALTHOUGH THE SCENERY BEFORE ME APPEARS UNNATURAL...
THE ONLY THING THAT'S CHANGED IS THE INCREASE IN MUSHROOMS.

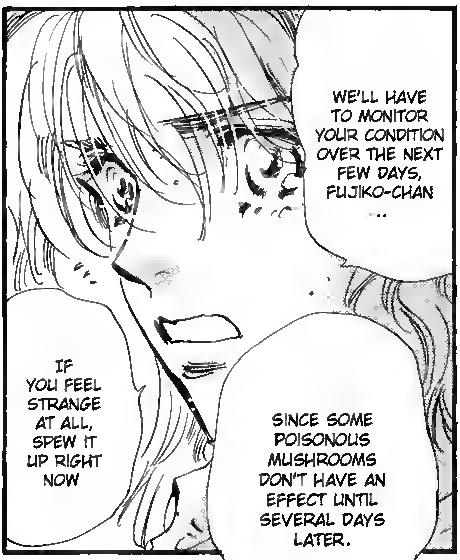
IT'S QUIET.


Snap
Crackle


She won't listen to a word I say
SHE SAID IF WE DIDN'T TRY, WE'D NEVER KNOW.
THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE WAY WE'VE DEALT WITH FOOD EVER SINCE COMING TO THIS WORLD.
If you think about it
WELL ...
Though lately we've been a bit timid about this sort of thing.
WHAT IF IT'S POISONOUS?!
I ONLY TRIED A TINY BIT.
FUJIKO-CHAN!!
CHOMP

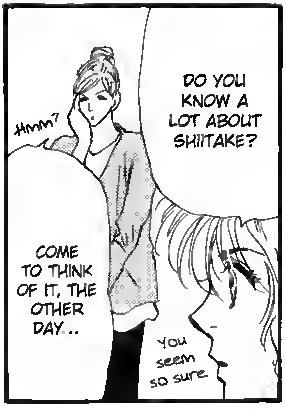

I GUESS THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
That was Team Spring's number one rule.
Although Yanagi-san was the one who came up with it
WE WOULD TASTE IT OURSELVES TO TEST FOR POISON.
Come to think of it
WE DID HAVE THAT RULE THAT IF THERE WAS ANYTHING WE WANTED TO EAT...

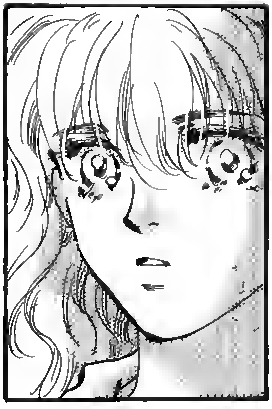
CAUSE YOU KNOW, MY FATHER SAID...
I FEEL FINE.
THAT YOU SHOULD NEVER TOUCH ANY MUSHROOMS GROWING IN THE WILD.
BUT HANA ...


WE'LL HAVE TO MONITOR YOUR CONDITION OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS, FUJIKO-CHAN ...
IF YOU FEEL STRANGE AT ALL, SPEW IT UP RIGHT NOW
SINCE SOME POISONOUS MUSHROOMS DON'T HAVE AN EFFECT UNTIL SEVERAL DAYS LATER.

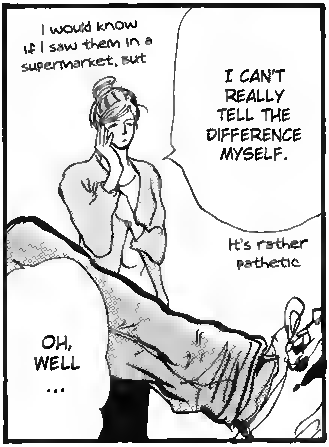
THIS MUSH-ROOM ...
ITS FLAVOUR, ITS SMELL, ITS TEX-TURE...
WE KNOW IT WELL.
THIS IS SHIITAKE.

WHEN YOU SAW THOSE MUSHROOMS IN THAT STOREROOM ...
AREN'T THESE SHIITAKE ?!
WAS THE FIRST THING YOU SAID.

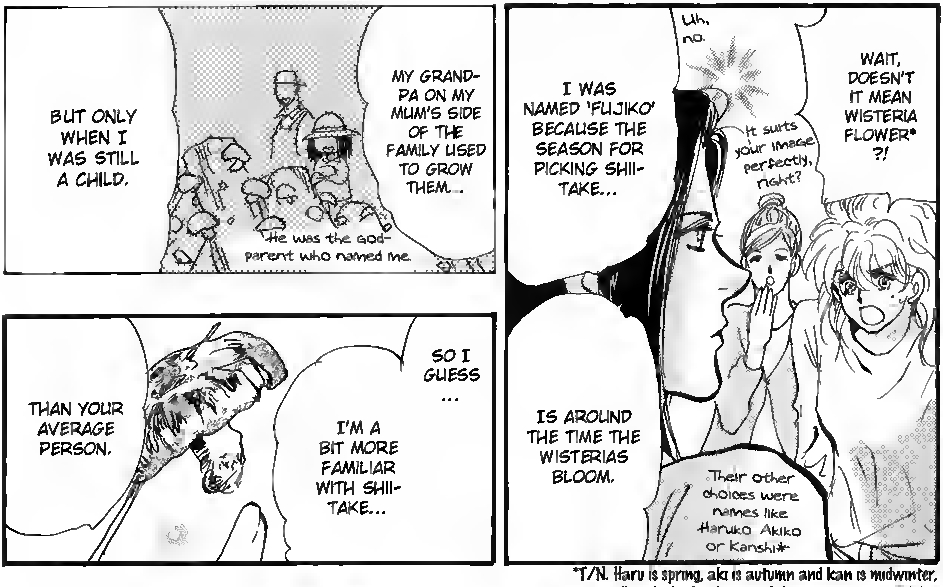

DO YOU KNOW A LOT ABOUT SHIITAKE?
Hmm?
COME TO THINK OF IT, THE OTHER DAY..
You seem so sure.



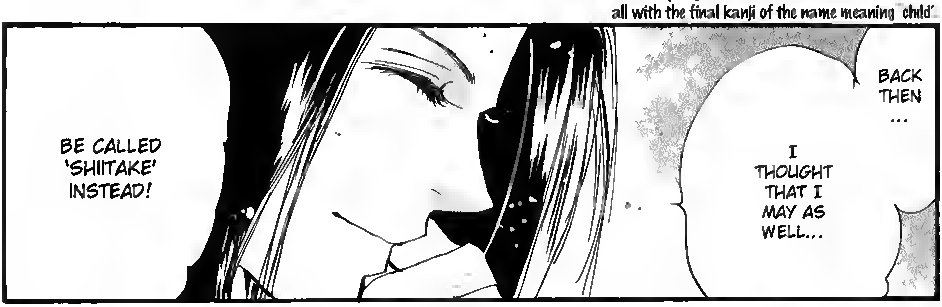
MY NAME ...
'FUJIKO' ...
IS BASED ON SHIITAKE AFTER ALL.

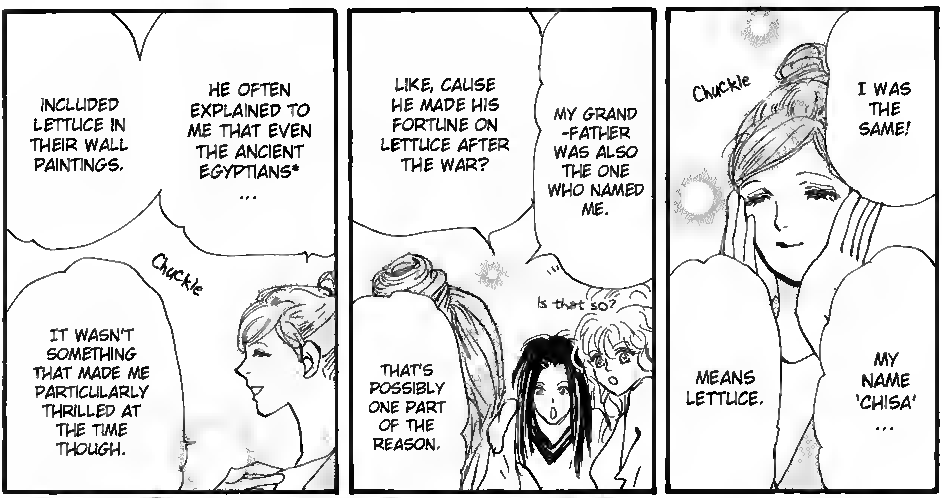

I would know it I saw them in a supermarket, but
I CAN'T REALLY TELL THE DIFFERENCE MYSELF.
It's rather pathetic
OH, WELL ...

*T/N Fujiko is formed of two kanji, 藤 (fuji) and 子 (ko). Fuji means 'wisteria', and ko means 'child', a common suffix in female names.


BUT ONLY WHEN I WAS STILL A CHILD.
MY GRAND-PA ON MY MUM'S SIDE OF THE FAMILY USED TO GROW THEM...
He was the god-parent who named me.
I WAS NAMED 'FUJIKO' BECAUSE THE SEASON FOR PICKING SHII-TAKE...
Uh, no.
WAIT, DOESN'T IT MEAN WISTERIA FLOWER*?!
It suits your image perfectly, right?
IS AROUND THE TIME THE WISTERIAS BLOOM.
Their other choices were names like Haruko Akiko or Kanshi*
SO I GUESS ...
I'M A BIT MORE FAMILIAR WITH SHII-TAKE...
THAN YOUR AVERAGE PERSON.

*T/N. Haru is spring, aki is autumn and kan is midwinter, all with the final kanji of the name meaning 'child'.



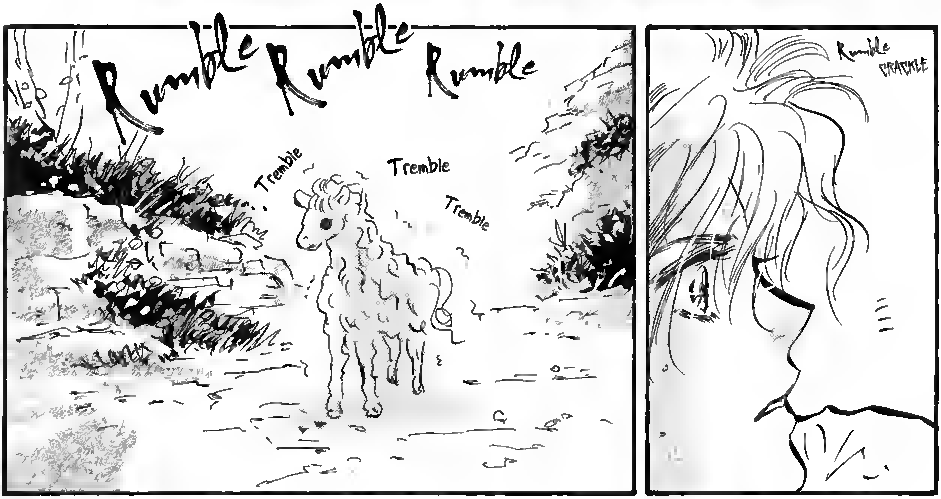

INCLUDED LETTUCE IN THEIR WALL PAINTINGS.
HE OFTEN EXPLAINED TO ME THAT EVEN THE ANCIENT EGYPTIANS* ...
Chuckle
IT WASN'T SOMETHING THAT MADE ME PARTICULARLY THRILLED AT THE TIME THOUGH.
LIKE, CAUSE HE MADE HIS FORTUNE ON LETTUCE AFTER THE WAR?
MY GRAND-FATHER WAS ALSO THE ONE WHO NAMED ME.
Is that so?
THAT'S POSSIBLY ONE PART OF THE REASON.
Chuckle
I WAS THE SAME!
MEANS LETTUCE.
MY NAME 'CHISA' ...

*T/N. Lettuce was considered to be a sacred plant of the ancient Egyptian reproduction god, Min, therefore its use in religious ceremonies meant that it was often painted in tombs and murals

YOU TWO HAVE SUCH GREAT NAMES.
YES...
I THINK SO TOO, NOW.
RIGHT?
NAMES WITH PRECIOUS MEANINGS...
ARE NAMES THAT WERE LOVINGLY GIVEN.
HMM ?
ANCIENT EGYPT ...?
WHAT ABOUT YOU, HANA?
WHAT FLOWER DOES YOUR NAME REPRESENT?
Does it have an interesting background story to it?
Mmm.
I WISH I'D ASKED MY PARENTS ABOUT THAT ...
It's a shame, really
Rumble Rumble Rumble
BUT I WAS BORN IN WINTER ...
IT'S GOTTA BE CHERRY BLOSSOM, RIGHT?
That's the likely choice
Rumble Rumble
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
HUH?
THUNDER?

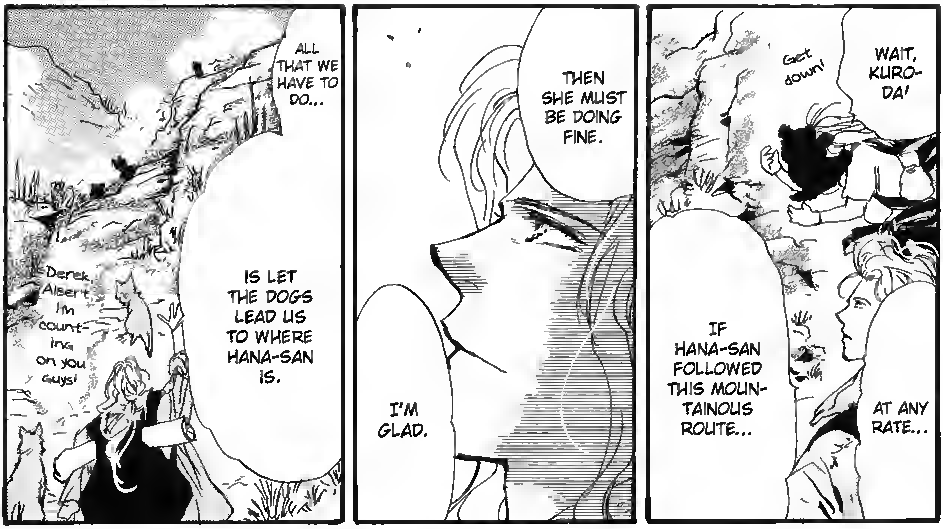
Rumble
CRACK
CRASH
Rumble
BOOM
EEK!
UWAH!
WOAH!

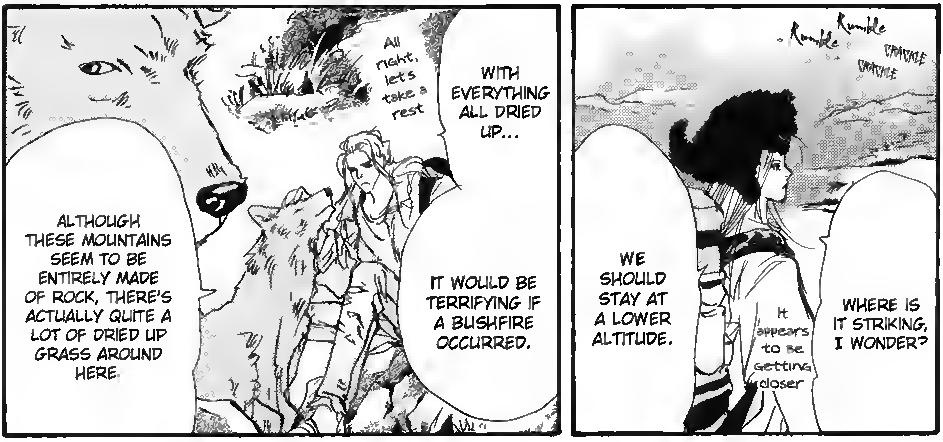
But it's still sunny!
URGH, THIS IS TERRIBLE!
SOME-WHERE REALLY CLOSE BY.
IT...IT STRUCK ...

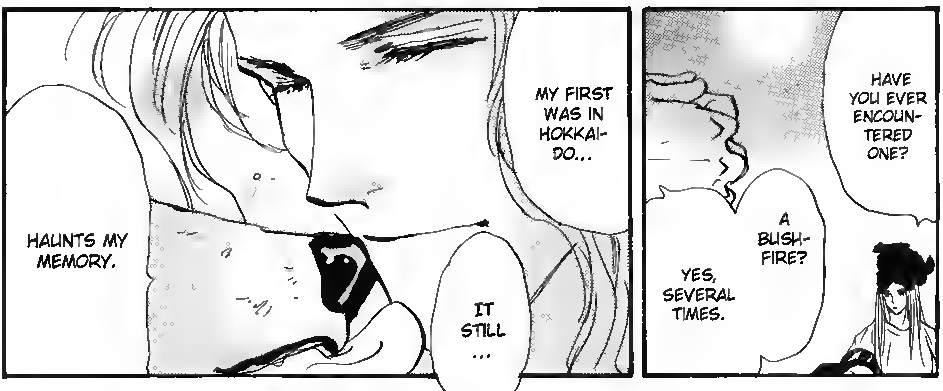

Rumble
Rumble
Rumble
Tremble
Tremble
Tremble
Rumble
CRACKLE

ARE YOU SCARED ?!
COME HERE!
Clack
GLOMP
Tremble
Tremble
WHAT ...
HAS YOU SO TERRIFIED?
NO, BUT
HE'S BEEN LIKE THIS FOR THE PAST FEW DAYS.
IT'S NOT THE THUNDER HE'S AFRAID OF.
Tremble
Tremble
IT'S FINE, YOU'RE OKAY.
You're being surprisingly honest today
Tremble
THUNDER IS SCARY, HUH?
He's shivering all over Awww how cute!

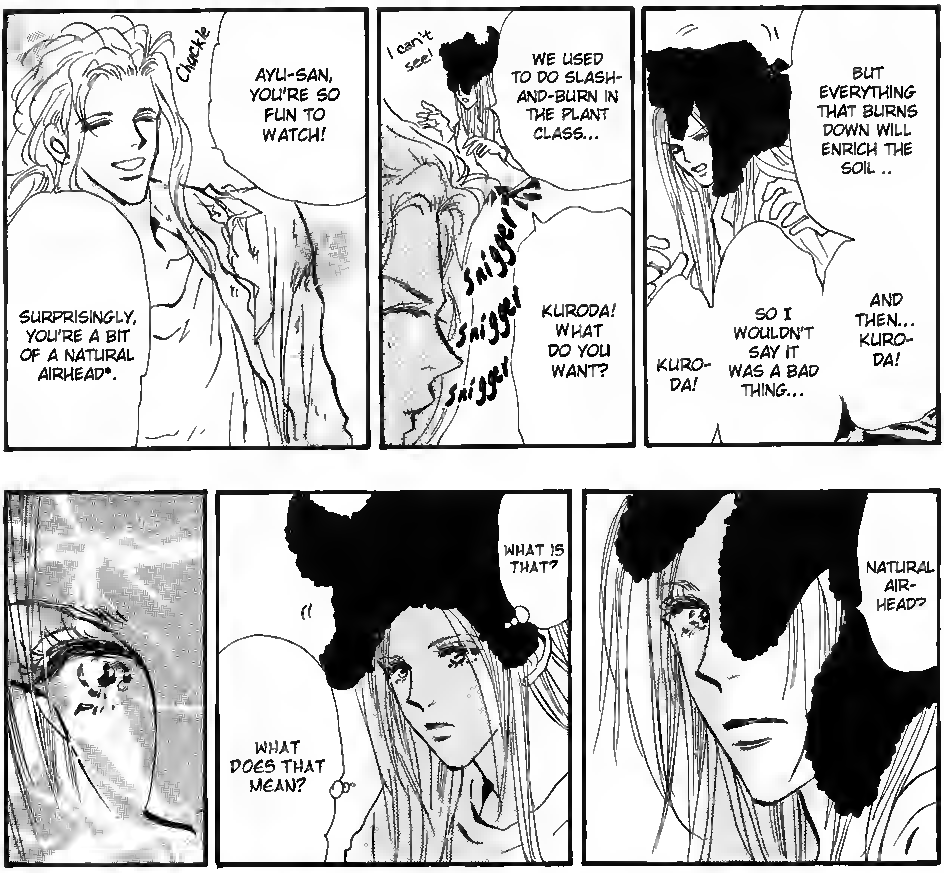
IS THAT REALLY TRUE?
Keep both feet firmly planted to the ground. Curl into a tight circle and don't let any part of yourself stick out.
Have you ever grown more than this?
WELL, I DON'T ACTUALLY KNOW...
WHAT'S THAT?
COME TO THINK OF IT, THEY SAY THAT SHIITAKE OFTEN GROW WHERE LIGHTNING STRIKES.
Drawing from my vast shiitake knowledge
Rumble Rumble Rumble
EEK!
SQUAT DOWN AND STAY AS LOW AS POSSIBLE
GET AWAY FROM THE TREES
Rumble Rumble Rumble
Rumble Rumble
OHH!
Gyah!
BOING
MAYBE THE DRY SEASON IS ENDING.
IT WAS RATHER SHORT THIS TIME ROUND.
Oh?
THAT'S RATHER RARE.
IT'S THUNDER.

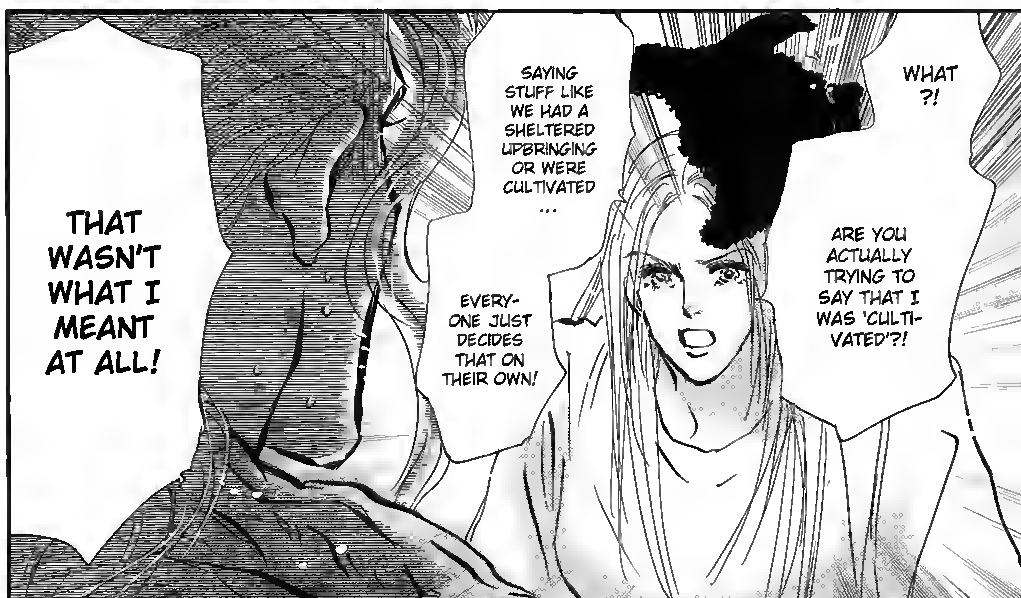

ALL THAT WE HAVE TO DO...
IS LET THE DOGS LEAD US TO WHERE HANA-SAN IS.
Derek, Albert, I'm counting on you guys!
THEN SHE MUST BE DOING FINE.
I'M GLAD.
WAIT, KURO-DA!
Get down!
IF HANA-SAN FOLLOWED THIS MOUNTAINOUS ROUTE...
AT ANY RATE...

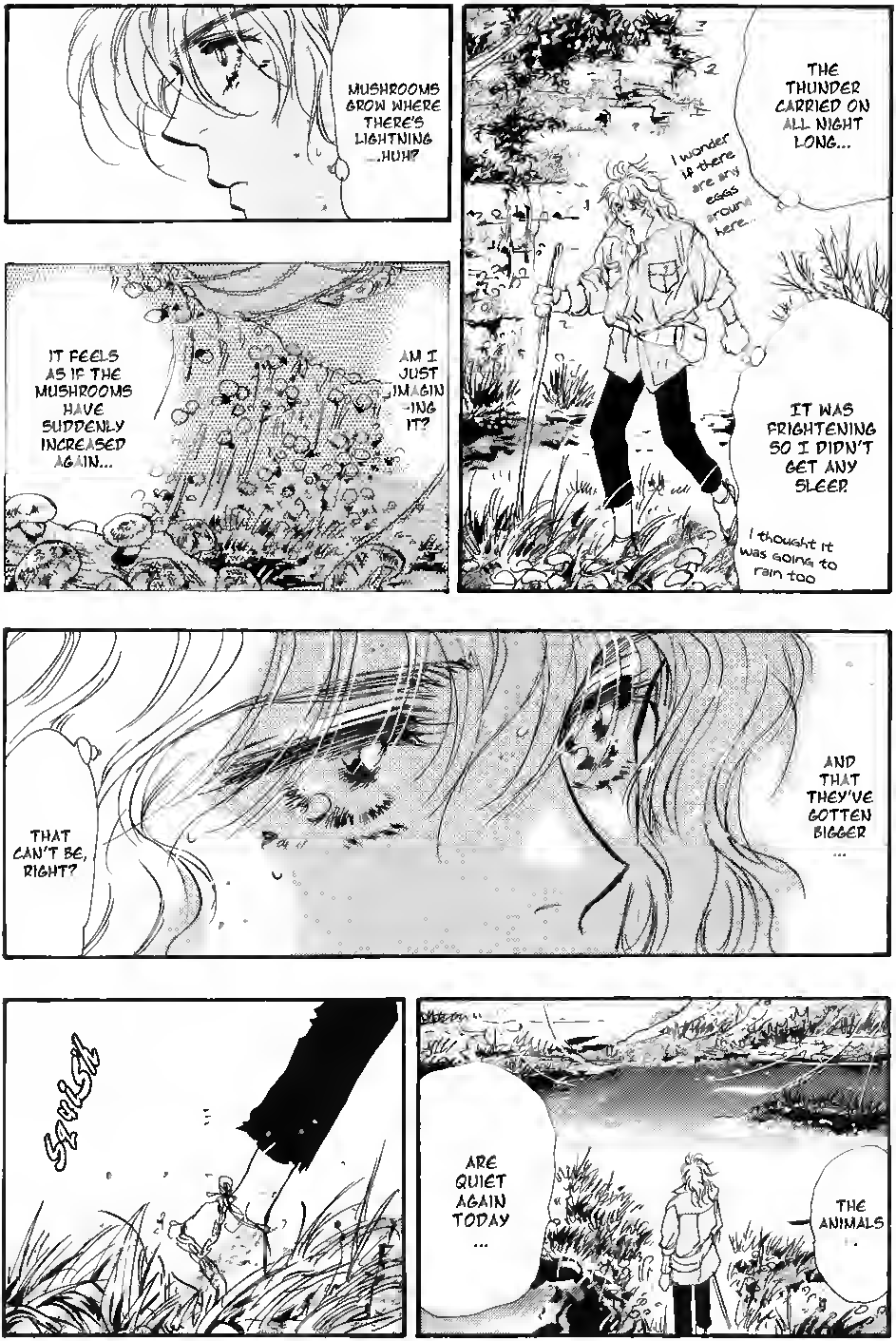

All right, let's take a rest
WITH EVERYTHING ALL DRIED UP...
IT WOULD BE TERRIFYING IF A BUSHFIRE OCCURRED.
ALTHOUGH THESE MOUNTAINS SEEM TO BE ENTIRELY MADE OF ROCK, THERE'S ACTUALLY QUITE A LOT OF DRIED UP GRASS AROUND HERE.
Rumble
Rumble
Rumble
Rumble
WE SHOULD STAY AT A LOWER ALTITUDE.
It appears to be getting closer
WHERE IS IT STRIKING, I WONDER?

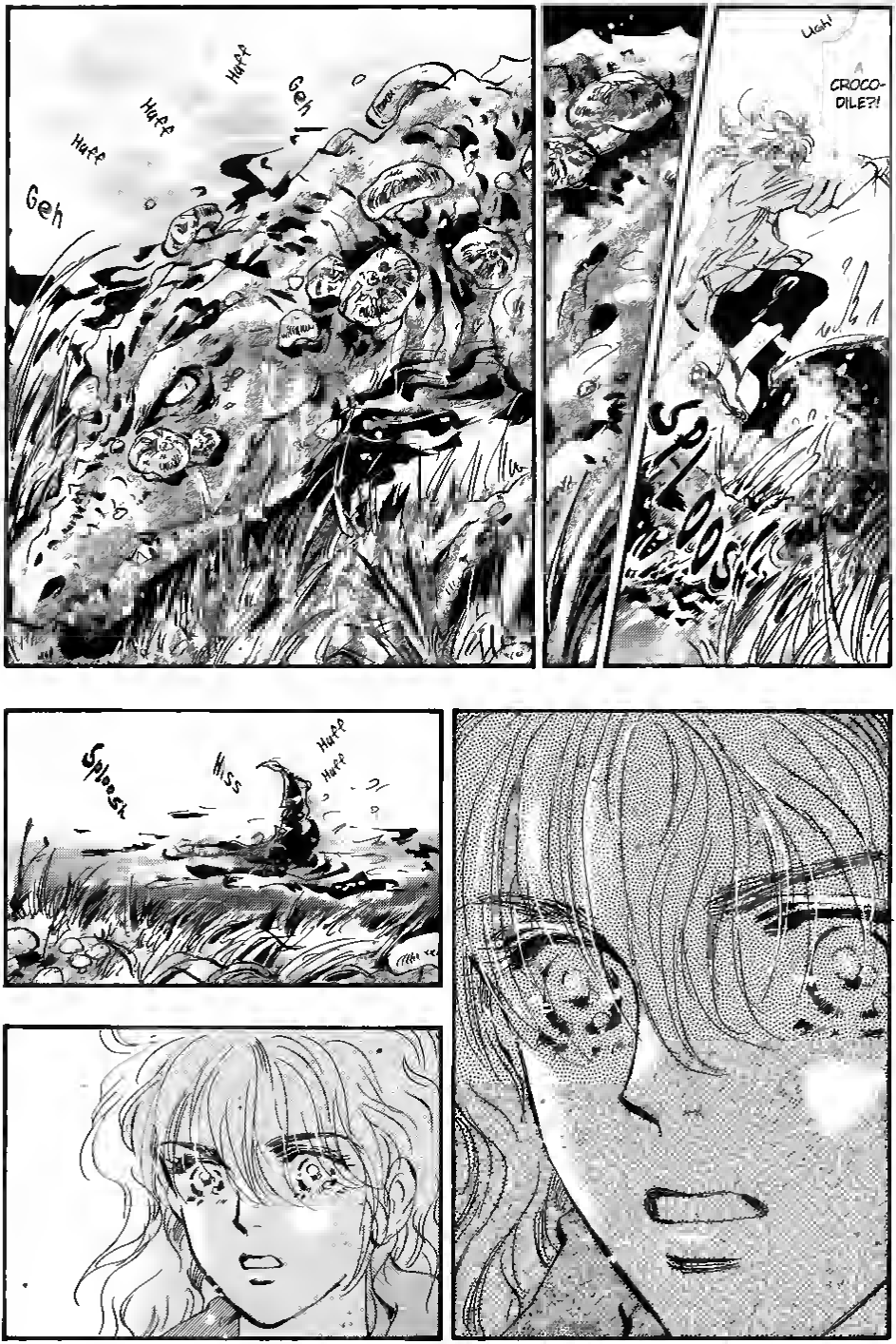

MY FIRST WAS IN HOKKAI-DO...
IT STILL ...
HAUNTS MY MEMORY.
HAVE YOU EVER ENCOUN-TERED ONE?
A BUSH-FIRE?
YES, SEVERAL TIMES.

*T/N. Aramaki calls Ayu a tennen (天然), which is translated to 'natural airhead' but doesn't really have an English equivalent. It doesn't necessarily mean stupid, more so a person who is innocent, kind, clumsy or isn't aware of bad intentions/things. The word can also mean 'natural' so perhaps Ayu linked 'natural' to 'cultivation', and of course 'sheltered upbringing' is literally 'raised in a hot house' in Japanese.

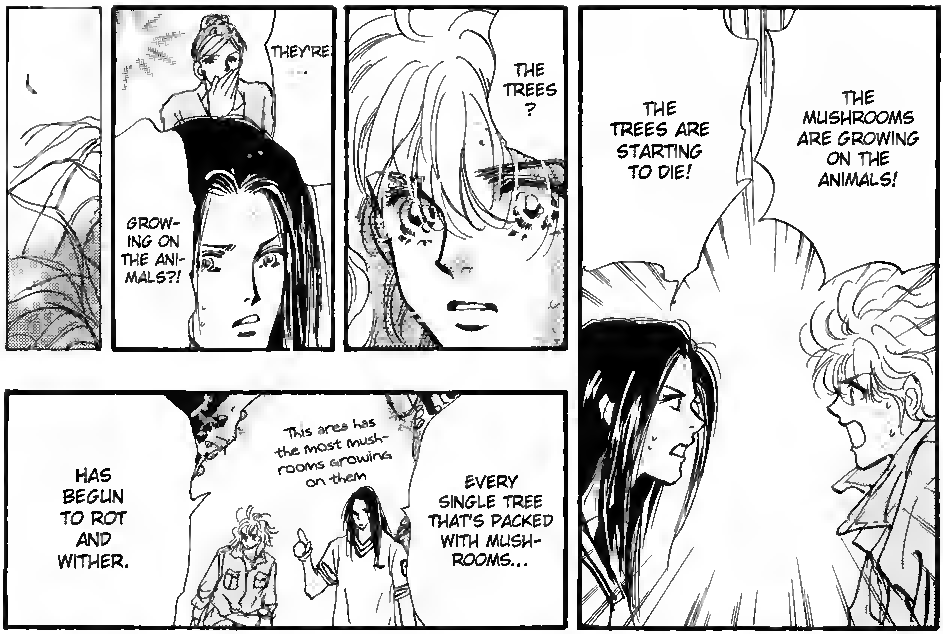

Chuckle
AYU-SAN, YOU'RE SO FUN TO WATCH!
SURPRISINGLY, YOU'RE A BIT OF A NATURAL AIRHEAD*.
I can't see!
WE USED TO DO SLASH-AND-BURN IN THE PLANT CLASS...
Snigger Snigger Snigger
KURODA! WHAT DO YOU WANT?
BUT EVERYTHING THAT BURNS DOWN WILL ENRICH THE SOIL..
AND THEN... KURODA!
SO I WOULDN'T SAY IT WAS A BAD THING...
KURODA!
WHAT IS THAT?
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
NATURAL AIRHEAD?

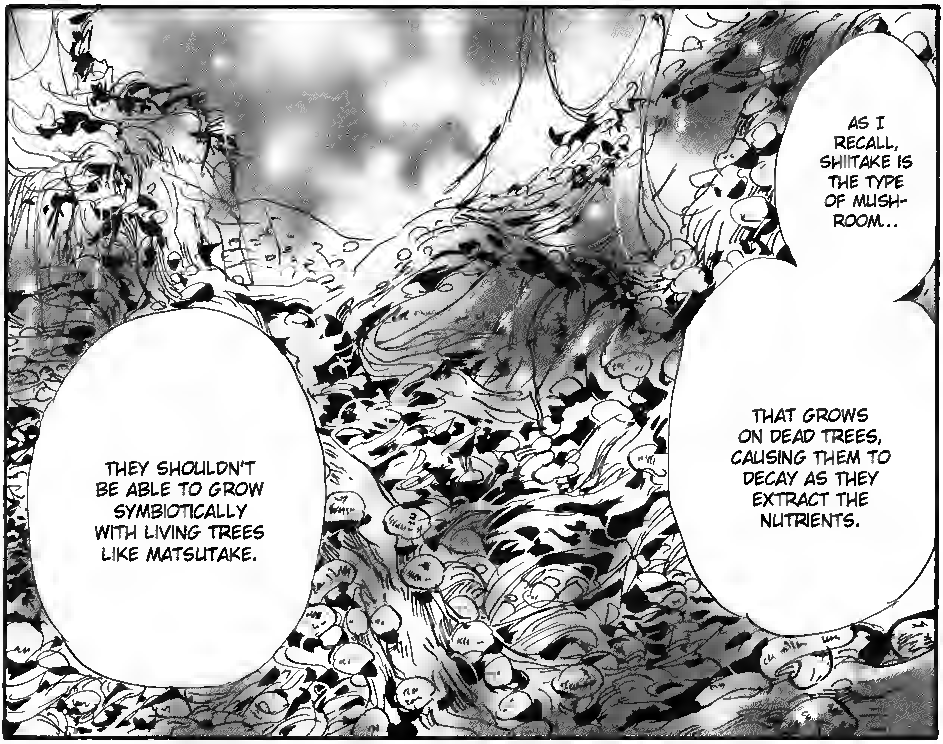

THAT WASN'T WHAT I MEANT AT ALL!
SAYING STUFF LIKE WE HAD A SHELTERED UPBRINGING OR WERE CULTIVATED ...
EVERY-ONE JUST DECIDES THAT ON THEIR OWN!
WHAT ?!
ARE YOU ACTUALLY TRYING TO SAY THAT I WAS 'CULTI-VATED'?!


MUSHROOMS GROW WHERE THERE'S LIGHTNING ...HUH?
THE THUNDER CARRIED ON ALL NIGHT LONG...
I wonder if there are any eggs around here...
IT WAS FRIGHTENING SO I DIDN'T GET ANY SLEEP.
I thought it was going to rain too
IT FEELS AS IF THE MUSHROOMS HAVE SUDDENLY INCREASED AGAIN...
AM I JUST IMAGIN-ING IT?
THAT CAN'T BE, RIGHT?
AND THAT THEY'VE GOTTEN BIGGER ...
SQUISH
ARE QUIET AGAIN TODAY ...
THE ANIMALS .

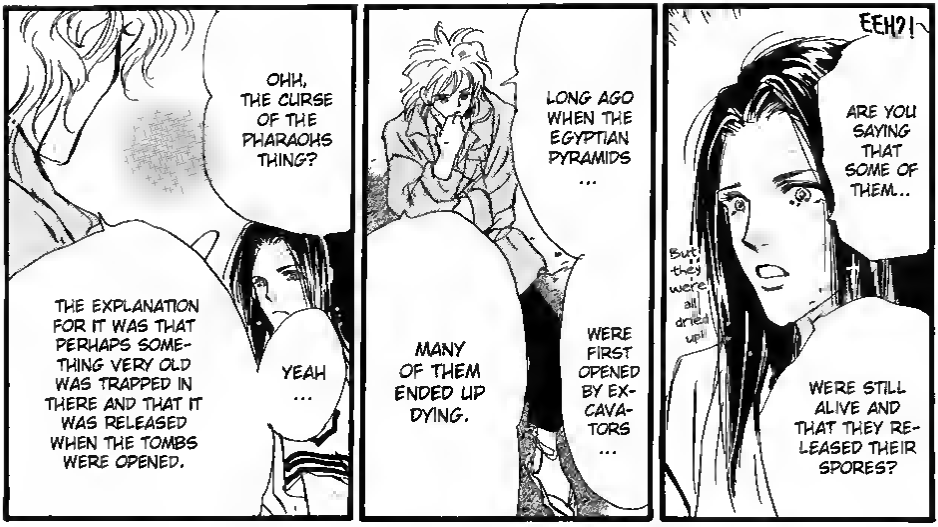

Geh
Huff
Huff
Huff
Geh!
Ugh!
CROCO-
DILE?!
Splash
Hiss
Huff
Huff

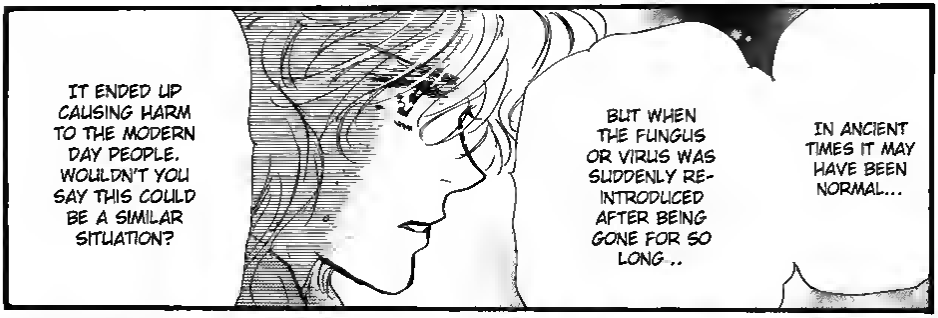
Tuu
Hupp
Hupp
Geh
Tuu
Tuu
HANA-CHAN!
WE GOT TROUBLE!
GUYS ...
IT'S AWFUL !!

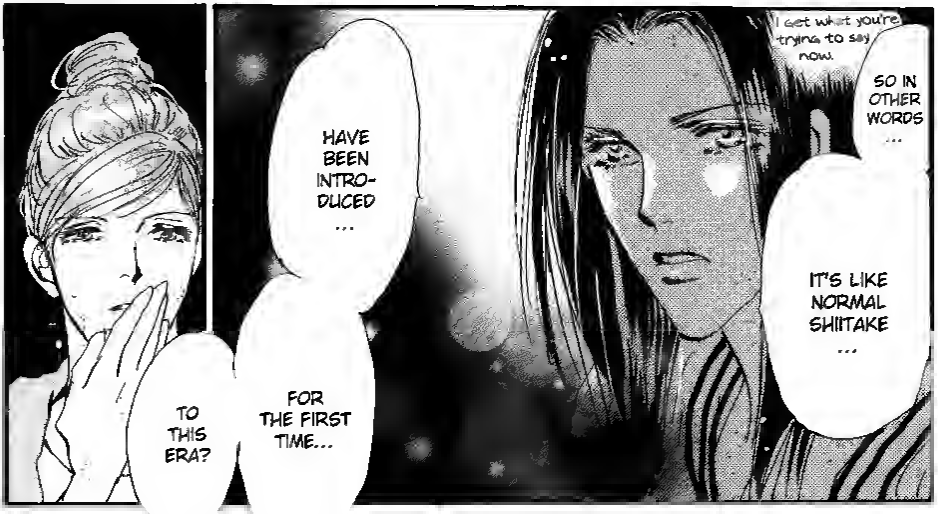

THEY'RE...
GROWING ON THE ANIMALS?!
THE TREES?
THE TREES ARE STARTING TO DIE!
THE MUSHROOMS ARE GROWING ON THE ANIMALS!
HAS BEGUN TO ROT AND WITHER.
This area has the most mushrooms growing on them
EVERY SINGLE TREE THAT'S PACKED WITH MUSHROOMS...


AS I RECALL, SHIITAKE IS THE TYPE OF MUSHROOM...
THAT GROWS ON DEAD TREES, CAUSING THEM TO DECAY AS THEY EXTRACT THE NUTRIENTS.
THEY SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GROW SYMBIOTICALLY WITH LIVING TREES LIKE MATSUTAKE.

AND YOU ...
NEIGH
HE LOOKS FINE.
ARE THERE ANY MUSHROOMS GROWING ON YOU?
HOW ARE YOU FEELING, FUJIKO-CHAN?
WELL, I FEEL ABSO-LUTELY FINE.
AND YET THEY'RE ABLE TO GROW ON LIVING TREES...
AND EVEN ON ANIMALS?
What the hell are they?!
THEY MUST NOT BE NORMAL SHIITAKE, AFTER ALL.
YEAH ...
SAY...
THEY MIGHT BE NORMAL SHIITAKE?
DON'T YOU THINK ...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THE THOUGHT
CROSSED MY MIND YESTERDAY WHEN CHISA CHAN TALKED ABOUT ANCIENT EGYPT
WE WERE THE ONES ...
WHO LET THESE SHIITAKE LOOSE
WOULDN'T YOU SAY THEY'RE PROBABLY THE ONES ...
WE SAW IN THAT QUARRY'S STORE-ROOM?

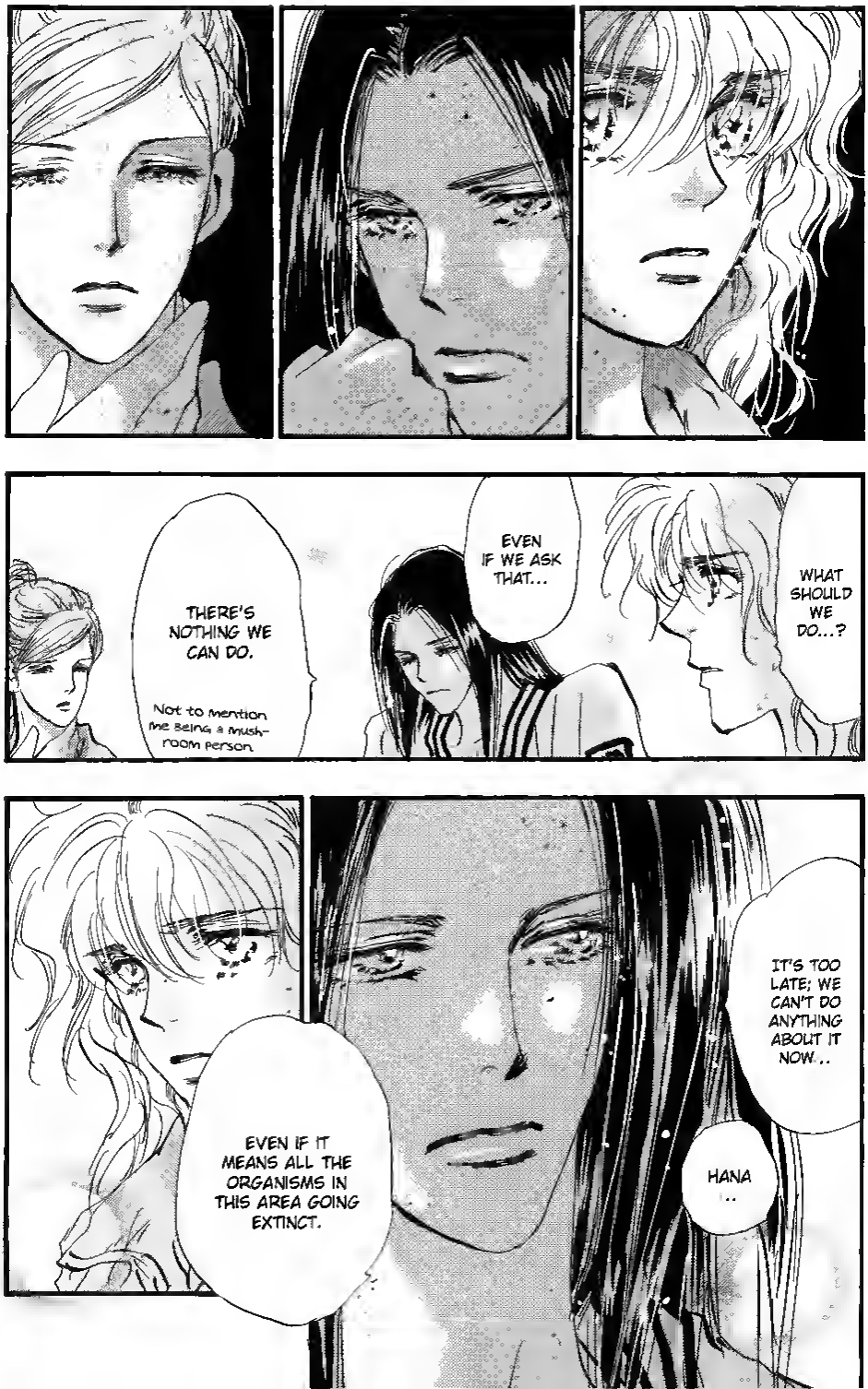

OHH, THE CURSE OF THE PHARAOHS THING?
THE EXPLANATION FOR IT WAS THAT PERHAPS SOMETHING VERY OLD WAS TRAPPED IN THERE AND THAT IT WAS RELEASED WHEN THE TOMBS WERE OPENED.
YEAH ...
LONG AGO WHEN THE EGYPTIAN PYRAMIDS ...
WERE FIRST OPENED BY EXCAVATORS ...
MANY OF THEM ENDED UP DYING.
EEH?!
ARE YOU SAYING THAT SOME OF THEM..
But they were all dried up!
WERE STILL ALIVE AND THAT THEY RELEASED THEIR SPORES?


IT ENDED UP CAUSING HARM TO THE MODERN DAY PEOPLE. WOULDN'T YOU SAY THIS COULD BE A SIMILAR SITUATION?
BUT WHEN THE FUNGUS OR VIRUS WAS SUDDENLY REINTRODUCED AFTER BEING GONE FOR SO LONG ..
IN ANCIENT TIMES IT MAY HAVE BEEN NORMAL...


I get what you're trying to say now.
SO IN OTHER WORDS ...
IT'S LIKE NORMAL SHIITAKE ...
HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED ...
FOR THE FIRST TIME...
TO THIS ERA?

THE NORMAL SHIITAKE ...
IF A SPECIES WERE RELEASED INTO A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENT ...
THEN THAT SPECIES MAY END UP DOMINATING THEIR NEW HABITAT...
AND IF THAT NEW ENVIRONMENT WERE SOME HOW MORE ACCOMMODATING THAN THE ORIGINAL
MEANING THAT THE EXISTING SPECIES MAY GO EXTINCT AS A CONSE-QUENCE?

SOMETHING EXTREMELY DANGEROUS LAY ASLEEP
IN THE FREEZER OF THE SHELTER IN THE WEST.
BUT IF THESE ARE NORMAL SHIITAKE ...
THEN MAYBE THEY'LL HAVE NO EFFECT ON US AT ALL.
THAT WAS SOMETHING THAT HAD TO STAY SEALED AWAY AT ALL COSTS.
SO WE...
WERE THE ONES WHO LET THEM LOOSE...


WHAT SHOULD WE DO...?
EVEN IF WE ASK THAT...
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO.
Not to mention me being a mush-room person.
IT'S TOO LATE; WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT NOW...
HANA...
EVEN IF IT MEANS ALL THE ORGANISMS IN THIS AREA GOING EXTINCT.

FOR NOW ...
SHALL WE ESCAPE?
THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THAT THE MUSHROOMS WON'T GROW ON US TOO.
RIGHT.
LET'S GATHER UP OUR BELONGINGS.
THE SAME MEANING APPLIES TO US ...
WE AREN'T NATIVES HERE EITHER.
US BEING INTRODUCED INTO THIS WORLD ...
MAY VERY WELL MEAN SOMETHING ELSE HAS GONE EXTINCT.
ON THE OTHER HAND, WE MAY END UP BEING THE ONES WHO FAIL TO SURVIVE.
OR IT MAY BE...
THAT NEITHER SIDE...
WILL BE ABLE TO EASILY COPE WITH THE PRESENCE OF THE OTHER..
WE DECIDED THAT WE WERE GOING TO...
LIVE HERE ...
BUT ...

...WHO KNOWS
IF THIS WORLD
WILL FORGIVE
US FOR THAT
...

NEEEIGH

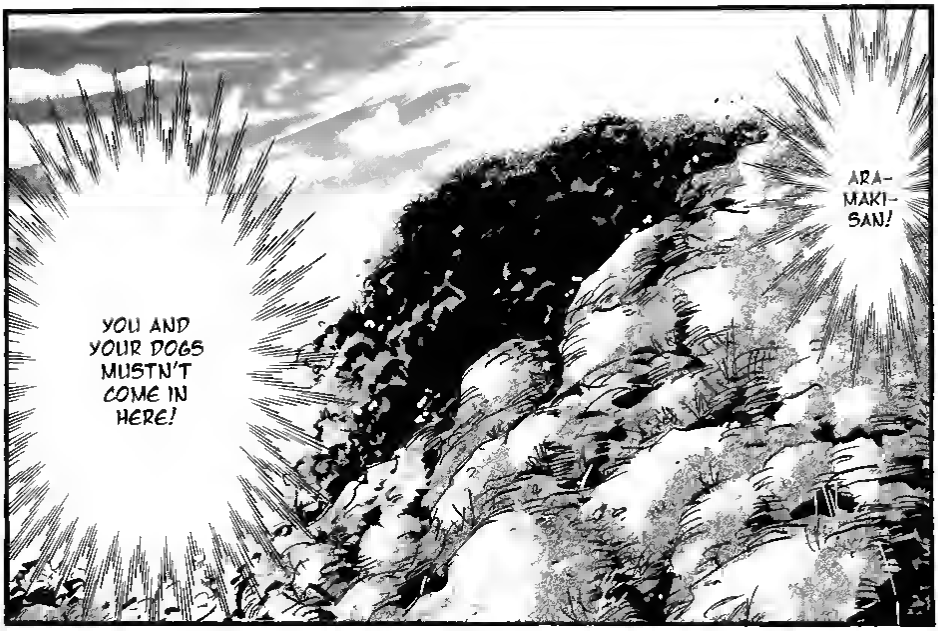
BARK
WHINY
NEEIGH
BARK
Gasp
GET LOST!
STAY AWAY FROM HIM!
WHAT THE?!
WILD DOGS ?!
HEY!
Sniff
Sniff
Sniff
Sniff
Sniff
Sniff

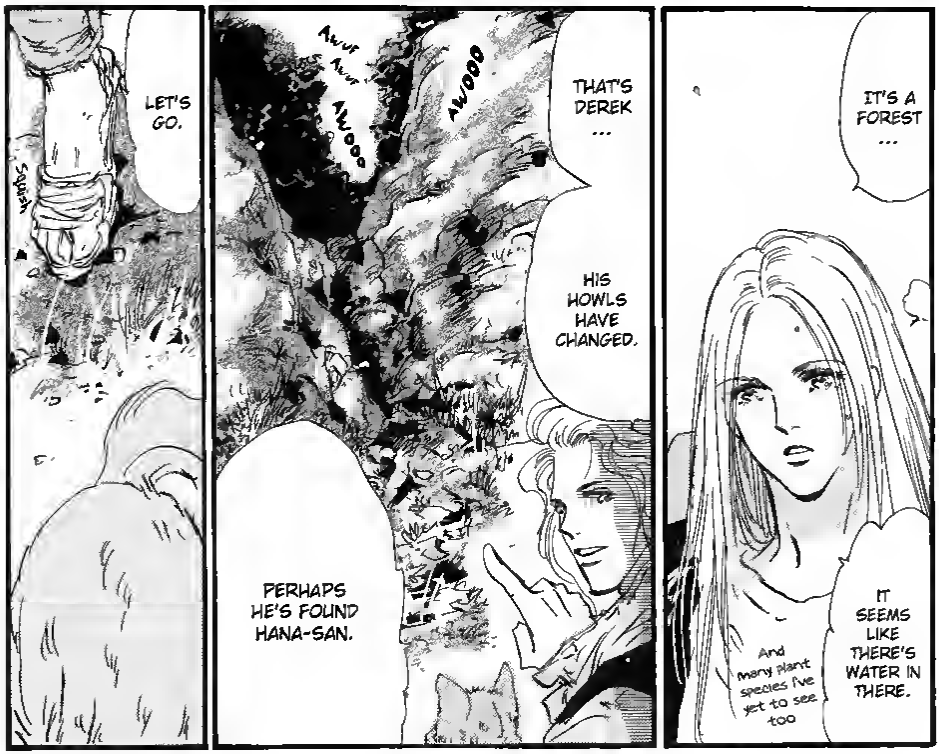
TMP TMP TMP
WOOF
Don't come near!
WH ...
WHAT?
SNAP SNAP
SNAP SNAP
I hadn't seen them at all 'till now though!
THAT SURE GAVE ME A FRIGHT!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
HAD THERE ALWAYS BEEN DOGS IN THIS AREA?
It would've been sad if they'd bitten us! We should arm ourselves with something.
GRRR
I WONDER IF HE'S HEADING THIS WAY ...
EH?
ARAMAKI-SAN'S?
Did they recognise me ?
NO WAY ...
COULD THEY POSSIBLY BE... ARAMAKI-SAN'S DOGS?

EVEN AFTER BEING SWEPT AWAY BY THAT UNDERGROUND CURRENT
MAYBE HE DOESN'T THINK THAT I DIED...
HAS HE BEEN...
WORRIED ABOUT ME THIS WHOLE TIME...?
COULD HE POSSIBLY
BE SEARCHING FOR ME?
.....
...THIS IS BAD.

YOU CAN DO AS YOU PLEASE!
YOU ...
NEIGH!
I'll try following those dogs.
I'M GOING TO SEE IF ARAMAKI-SAN IS HERE!
HANA!
FUJIKO-CHAN, YOU AND CHISA-CHAN SHOULD GET OUT OF THIS FOREST.
Using the shortest route possible.
ARA-MAKI-SAN ...
YOU CAN'T ...!
The dogs went this way, right?
THAT THE MUSHROOMS ARE GROWING ON...?
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO THE ANI-MALS...
WILL THE MUSHROOMS START SPROUTING ON US TOO?

*T/N. Mentioned by Hihari before, a goshintai is a sacred object in which a deity resides.


ARA-MAKI-SAN!
YOU AND YOUR DOGS MUSTN'T COME IN HERE!


IT'S A FOREST ...
And many plant species I've yet to see too
IT SEEMS LIKE THERE'S WATER IN THERE.
THAT'S DEREK ...
HIS HOWLS HAVE CHANGED.
AWOOO
AWOOO
AWOOO
PERHAPS HE'S FOUND HANA-SAN.
LET'S GO.
Squish

Freeze
FU-BUKI ...
MI-TSURU-SAN ..
COME NOW, LET'S GO.
WHAT'S WRONG?
WHAT IS IT?

Rumble Rumble Rumble
ARA-MAKI-SAN...
PLEASE DON'T BE ANYWHERE NEAR HERE!
FLASH
BOOOOM
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN...
TO US OR THE DOGS...